IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows, this listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-10 (canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A linear compressor unit, comprising:

an electromagnetic alternating field surrounding at least a portion of a cylinder;

a magnet located in said electromagnetic alternating field in said cylinder, said magnet displaceable back and forth in said electromagnetic alternating field;

a piston located in said electromagnetic alternating field in said cylinder drivingly connected to said magnet;

a buffer volume;

a module casing which encloses said cylinder and said buffer volume;

said cylinder mounted in said module casing so that said cylinder can oscillate in said module casing;

said module casing including an inlet passage for ~~the medium~~ media to be compressed;

said cylinder including an inlet opening lying opposite said inlet passage without making contact therewith;

a passage to said buffer volume formed between said inlet opening and said inlet passage; and

at least one sound restrictor element located in said buffer volume passage, said sound restrictor element including a plurality of interleaved, generally cylindrical walls, with a first group of walls attached to said module casing and a second group of walls attached to said cylinder for generally

recriprocal relative motion between said first group of walls and said second group of walls with said first group of walls interleaved with said second group of walls.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The linear compressor unit according to claim ~~12~~ 11, including said intermeshing walls are formed in a ring shape and surround at least one of said inlet opening and said inlet passage.

14. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 11, including said cylinder including a chamber for receiving said piston and at least one sound-dampening chamber through which said medium to be compressed flows, said sound-dampening chamber arranged between said inlet opening of said chamber and said piston chamber.

15. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 11, including at least one sound-dampening chamber through which said medium to be compressed flows located in said inlet passage of said module casing.

16. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 15, including said sound-dampening chamber is formed in a flat-cylindrical shape with a cylindrical axis opening and said inlet passage of said module casing is substantially aligned therewith.

17. (Currently Amended) The linear compressor unit according to claim 11, said cylinder mounted for oscillation in said module casing by ~~an~~ a cylinder outlet pipe.

18. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 17, including said outlet pipe is formed helically around said cylinder.

19. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 11, including said magnet is formed as an axial extension of said piston.

20. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 11, including said magnet is formed as a ring shaped body at least partially surrounding said piston and connected thereto at one end of said piston.

21. (Currently Amended) A linear compressor unit, comprising:

an electromagnetic alternating field surrounding at least a portion of a cylinder;

a magnet located in said electromagnetic alternating field in said cylinder, said magnet displaceable back and forth in said electromagnetic alternating field;

a piston located in said electromagnetic alternating field in said cylinder drivingly connected to said magnet;

a buffer volume;

a module casing which encloses said cylinder and said buffer volume;

said cylinder mounted in said module casing so that said cylinder can oscillate in said module casing;

said module casing including an inlet passage for ~~the medium~~ media to be compressed and a first sound-dampening chamber through which said ~~medium~~ media to be compressed flows located in said inlet passage;

said cylinder including an inlet opening lying opposite said inlet passage without making contact therewith, said cylinder including a chamber for receiving said piston and a second sound-dampening chamber through which said medium to be compressed flows, said second sound-

dampening chamber arranged between said inlet opening of said chamber and said piston chamber;

a passage to said buffer volume formed between said inlet opening and said inlet passage; and

at least one sound restrictor element located in said buffer volume passage, said sound restrictor element having a ~~pair~~ plurality of intermeshing walls, a first ~~set~~ group of walls attached to said module casing and a second ~~set~~ group of walls attached to said cylinder, said intermeshing walls are formed in a ~~ring~~ generally cylindrical shape and surround at least one of said inlet opening and said inlet passage.

22. (Currently Amended) The linear compressor unit according to claim 21, including said first sound-dampening chamber is formed in a flat-cylindrical shape with a cylindrical axis opening and said inlet passage of said module casing is substantially aligned therewith.

23. (Currently Amended) The linear compressor unit according to claim 11, said cylinder mounted for oscillation in said module casing by ~~an~~ a cylinder outlet pipe formed helically around said cylinder.

24. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 21, including said magnet is formed as an axial extension of said piston.

25. (Previously Presented) The linear compressor unit according to claim 21, including said magnet is formed as a ring shaped body at least partially surrounding said piston and connected thereto at one end of said piston.